

956

THE  
CHRONICLE  
OF THE  
KINGS  
OF  
*ENGLAND,*

FROM  
The *Norman* CONQUEST unto  
the present Time.

WRITTEN  
In the Manner of the ancient *Jewish* Historians.

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By *NATHAN BEN SADDI*, K  
A PRIEST of the JEWS.

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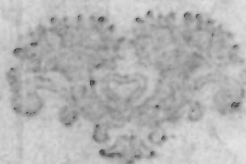
EWGLAND



The Museum  
the present time

In the manner of the ancient  
the present time

By MATTHIAS BELL SADDL  
A Printer of the Jews



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## *The* P R E F A C E.

**N**ATHAN BEN SADDI,  
a Servant of God, of the House  
of *Israel*, to all and every of his  
Readers, whether *Jew* or *Gentile*,  
Greeting.

Notwithstanding that many have  
taken in hand to write the History  
of *England*, it seemed good unto me  
also, most excellent Reader, to set  
forth in Order some Things that have  
happen'd since the Conquest of *Wil-*  
*liam the Norman*.

Now this I have chosen to do in the  
Manner of our Forefathers, the anci-  
ent *Jewish* Historians, as being not  
only the most concise, but the most  
venerable Way of Writing.

Howbeit, I would not that thou  
shouldst be offended, or take in evil  
Part that I have adventured to imitate  
those sublime Originals: neither let it  
enter into thine Heart that I have done  
this Thing in Sport, or Wantonness of  
Wit; for verily I abound not there-  
with, as thou wilt undoubtedly per-  
ceive. Never-

Nevertheless, in perusing this delectable History, thou wilt meet with abundant Matter both for Information and Amusement, and peradventure also for Instruction.

And it shall come to pass when thou readest of the foolish Kings that have ruled the Land, then shall thy Soul be troubled, and thou shalt say within thyself, How small a Portion of Sense sufficeth to govern a great Kingdom !

But when thou readest of the Kings that were wise and great, then shall thy Heart be glad, and thou shalt compare the passed Times with the present, and rejoice therein, and laugh exceedingly.

Moreover thou wilt find, that the End of the first was Bitterness and Shame, but the End of the last was Glory and Honour : These shall be set up as a Light unto Kings in all Ages ; but Those as a Warning from Generation to Generation.

T H E

# THE CHRONICLE, &c.

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## I. *WILLIAM* the Conqueror.

**N**OW it came to pass in the Year One thousand sixty and six, in the Month of *September*, on the eighth Day of the Month, that *William* of *Normandy*, surnamed the Bastard, landed in *England*, and pitched his Tent in a Field near the Town of *Hastings*.

Then *Harold* the King attended by all his Nobles came forth to meet him with a numerous Army, and gave him Battle.

And it was fought from the rising of the Sun even to the going down of the same.

But the Lord gave up *Harold* into the Hands of his Enemies, and he was pierced with an Arrow, and died in the Field of Battle, and his Army was routed with exceeding great Slaughter.

Then *William* the Bastard took on him the Royal Robes, and the Scepter and the Diadem, and was made King of *England*, and was called the Conqueror.

And he seized the Coffers of King *Harold*; and the Gold, and the Silver, and the precious Stones, and all the Treasures he distributed to his Followers.



And he built a strong Castle, and he fortified it with a Wall and a Ditch; and it is called the Tower of *London* unto this Day.

And he subdued the Land, and subjected it unto him: And that they might not rebell against him, he despoiled his Subjects of all manner of Instruments of War.

And he caused a Survey to be taken of all the Lands in the Kingdom, and how much appertained to each Person, which he wrote in a Book called *Dooms-day Book*.

And he raised a Tribute from every one, according to his Substance, and oppressed them greatly.

Moreover he made a Law, and caused it to be observed throughout the Kingdom, that at the Ringing of a Bell, all his Subjects, from the greatest even unto the least, should extinguish their Fires, and suffer no Light to appear in their Houses upon pain of Death.

So it was called the *Curfew Bell*; and at the Sound thereof the Lights were extinguished, and our Fathers slept in the Dark.

These are the Acts of *William* the Bastard; who after he had reigned twenty and one Years, died, and was buried in his own Tomb at *Roan* in *Normandy*, and *Rufus* his Son reigned in his stead.

## II. *WILLIAM RUFUS*.

**N**OW *Rufus* was thirty and one Years old when he began to reign, and he reigned over *England* twelve Years and ten Months, and his Mother's Name was *Matilda*.



And he was a very wicked Man, and his Heart was set to do evil continually: and he contemned the Gods of his Fathers, and believed not: he banished also the Priests, and converted the sacred Revenues to his own Use.

Wherefore the Lord smote him with Sicknes, and his Sicknes seemed unto Death.

Then his Heart trembled within him, and he repented him of his Sin; and he sent for the High Priest, and besought him, saying:

I have done evil in the sight of the Lord, in seizing the vacant Bishopricks; wherefore now I pray thee, take back the Things which belong to the Church, that it may be well with me, and that my Soul may live.

Howbeit, when the Sicknes left him, he forgot all that he had promised, and returned to his evil Ways.

Nevertheless he was a valiant Prince, and he fought against the *Welch*, and discomfited them, and drove them into the Mountains, and conquered the Southern Part of the Country.

And *Malcolm* also, King of the *Scots*, made War upon him; but he slew him in Battle, and put his Army to Flight.

And in these Days were great Divisions in the Church, and *Urban* the Pope bethought himself how he might put an end to them; and he sent Messengers to all the Princes of *Christendom*, saying, Behold now, O ye *Christian* Princes, the *Infidels* have taken the City *Jerusalem*, even the City of our God; they have possessed themselves of the Holy Land, and profaned the Sacred

Sacred Places: Wherefore now I pray ye, let us unite together, and drive them from the Face of the Earth, to the end that the Holy City may be delivered from the Pollutions of Evil-doers, and from the Scorn of Unbelievers.

So all the *Christian* Princes united together and raised a numerous Army; and they distinguish'd themselves by a red Cross, which they wore on the upper Garment, wherefore this Expedition was called the *Crusade*: and they marched into *Palestine*, and besieged the Holy City, and took it.

And it came to pass in those Days that the Sea over-flowed its Banks, insomuch that great Part of the Lands of Earl *Godwin*, in *Kent*, were over-whelmed and lost in the Sea; and the Place is called *Godwin's Sands* unto this Day.

And *Rufus* builded a great Hall, the like of which had not been seen in *England*; the Length thereof was Two hundred and seventy Feet, and the Breadth thereof was Seventy and four Feet; and he called it *Westminster-Hall*.

And it came to pass on a certain Day, as he hunted in the Forest which his Father had made, that he was slain with an Arrow; and his Body was carried in a Cart to the City of *Winchester*, and was buried there, and *Henry* his Brother reigned in his stead.

### III. HENRY I.

**N**OW *Henry* was a learned Man, and a Prince of exceeding great Wisdom, insomuch that he was surnamed *Beauclerk*:  
And

And he set himself to enact good Laws, and to govern his People wisely.

And he restored to the *English* the Privilege of having Lights in their Houses, after the ringing of the *Curfew* Bell.

And he granted a Charter, whereby he confirmed the Rights of the Church, and relinquished his Claim to the vacant Bishopricks: And he forgave all Debts due to the Crown, all Offences committed before his Coronation, and confirmed the Statutes of *Edward* the Confessor.

Moreover, he ordained that the Length of his own Arm should be the Standard Measure throughout the Kingdom, and it is called a Yard unto this Day.

And he instituted the High-Court of Parliament, and assembled them together in the City of *Salisbury*: he appointed also the Watch.

Now the rest of the Acts of King *Henry*, the Lampreys that he ate, and the Children that he begat, are they not written in the Book of *Baker* the Historian?

And *Henry* reigned over *England* thirty and five Years, and he died, and *Stephen* Earl of *Boloign* reigned in his stead.

#### IV. S T E P H E N.

**A**ND *Stephen* was a goodly Man, and a Man of great Valour; howbeit, as he was not the rightful Heir, he bethought himself how he might best obtain the Affections of the People; and he sought by all manner of Ways to please them.



To the Nobles he gave leave to build them Forts and Castles on their own Lands ; he won Favour with the Priests by exempting them from Temporal Authority ; the Gentry he pleased with leave to hunt in his Forests ; and he pleased the People with freeing them from Taxes and Impositions.

Nevertheless his Reign was full of Trouble, the Sword was not sheathed, neither ceased he from War all the Days of his Life.

And now the Sin of Laziness began to prevail in the Land, and the great Men and the Nobles made unto themselves Coaches and Chariots, and were drawn through the Streets of the City with Horses ; moreover, their Pride increased daily, insomuch that in process of Time they were carried on the Shoulders of Men, and blushed not.

And *Stephen* reigned over *England* eighteen Years and nine Months, and he died, and *Henry Plantagenet* reigned in his stead.

## V. H E N R Y II.

**A**ND *Henry* was twenty and two Years old when he began to reign, and he reigned over *England* four and thirty Years and eight Months, and his Mother's Name was *Maud*.

And he chose unto himself wise and discreet Counsellors of State, he appointed learned and able Men to reform Abuses in the Laws, he disbanded also the foreign Army which his Father had kept, and utterly destroyed the Castles and Forts which the Nobles and Prelates had built in his Reign.



And it came to pass, that grievous Complaints were made unto the King of divers cruel Offences and enormous Crimes committed by the Clergy, occasioned by their being exempted in the former Reign from the Civil Power, and encouraged, as was said, by the Connivance of *Becket* the High Priest.

And the King assembled the Priests and the Elders together, and he said unto them, Is it not meet that this Law should be abolished? And they answered him and said, It is meet.

Then *Becket* the High Priest stood up, and opposed the King with great Haughtiness, and refused his Assent.

And the Wrath of the King was kindled against him, and he caused him to be accused of divers Crimes and Misdemeanors, and he was condemned by the Priests and the Elders, as a perjurd Man and a Traytor.

Then *Becket* fled from the Presence of the King, and became a Fugitive in the Land of *Gaul*.

And it came to pass after some time, that the King was reconciled to *Becket*, and he sent for him, and took him again into Favour, and restored unto him all the Honours that he before enjoy'd.

Howbeit the Pride of his Heart was not a jot abated, he burned with Choler, and cast about how he might revenge himself of his Enemies.

And he suspended some, and some he excommunicated, and became in all respects more insolent than before.

Then certain of the Priests and the Nobles came unto the King, and complained of *Becket*, saying, O King! the Man whom thou forgavest, is now more wicked than he was before, his Crimes are increased seven-fold.

Then the King waxed exceeding wroth, and his Countenance changed, and he cry'd out, O wretched Man that I am, who shall deliver me from this turbulent Priest?

Now this Saying was heard by certain of the King's Servants, and they went forth privily, and finding the High Priest at the Altar, they fell on him and slew him, and dashed out his Brains at the Foot of the Altar, and his Blood stained the holy Place.

And the Priests were inflamed with Fury, and they sent unto the Pope, accusing the King for the Murder of *Becket*.

And when the Messengers came into the Presence of the Pope, they bowed down with great Reverence before him, saying,

‘† O most holy Father! to whom all Power  
 ‘in Heaven and Earth is given, who art appointed over Empires and Nations to bind their Kings  
 ‘in Chains, and their Nobles in Fetters of Iron;  
 ‘behold and see how the Boar of the Wood hath  
 ‘rooted up the Vineyard of the Lord of Sabaoth! If the Rage of Tyranny shall embrue  
 ‘with Blood the *Sanctum Sanctorum*, what  
 ‘Place shall be safe? Wherefore, O most mild  
 ‘Keeper of the Walls of *Jerusalem*, arm all the  
 ‘Ecclesiastical Power you may, unsheath the  
 ‘Sword

† These are the very Words that were used in several of their Addresses on that Occasion.

‘ Sword of *Peter*, and revenge the Death of this  
 ‘ holy Martyr, whose Blood cryeth out for all the  
 ‘ Church, and whose divine Glory is already  
 ‘ reveal’d in Miracles.

And the Pope was moved exceedingly, and he sent unto the King, commanding him to purge himself of the Crime laid to his Charge.

And *Henry* protested his Innocence, but it availed not: the Words he had spoken testified against him, and he was compell’d to expiate his Fault by a Penance at the Tomb of *Becket*.

Now the Penance enjoyned was this: he cloathed himself in Woolen, and journeyed till he came within Sight of the Church wherein *Becket* was slain.

Then he alighted from his Horse, and pulling his Shoes from his Feet, he walked barefoot till he came to the Tomb where the holy Man was laid, and he prostrated himself before the Shrine, and prayed, and offer’d rich Gifts.

Moreover he uncloathed himself and received Discipline from the Hands of the Monks; and they strake him with Rods, that the Blood ran from his Shoulders.

And the Fame of *Becket* waxed great, and he was canonized, and Miracles were wrought at his Tomb.

And of the Miracles that he wrought, is it not recorded, how he rose from the Coffin and lighted the Candles at his own Burial? and when the Funeral Ceremony was ended, how he lifted up his Head and blessed the People?

He that believeth, let him believe still; and he that doubteth, let him doubt and be damn’d.



And *Henry* was a great Prince, and he conquer'd the Kingdom of *Ireland*, and added it to his Dominions.

Now the rest of the Acts of King *Henry*, the Concubine that he kept in the Bower of *Woodstock*, and how she was poisoned by *Eleanor* the Queen, are they not written in the Book of the *Chronicles* of the Kings of *England*?

And *Henry* slept with his Fathers, and *Richard* his Son reigned in his stead.

## VI. RICHARD I.

AND it came to pass at the Coronation of *Richard*, that certain of the *Jews* pressing in to see the Ceremony, were set upon by the People with great Rage and Fury, and many of them were murder'd.

And it was rumour'd abroad, that the King had commanded that all the *Jews* should be destroyed; and the Tumult increased exceedingly, and the *Jews* were destroyed in several Cities of *England* with a terrible Slaughter.

And *Richard* the King prepared a great Army for the Holy Land; and to support this Expedition, he extorted Money from his Subjects by all manner of Ways, and the Priests were instructed to preach up the great Merit of this pious Undertaking, and the Duty of supporting it.

And he set sail for the Holy Land, with the richest and most powerful Fleet that the *English* had ever seen; and he came to an Anchor at *Messina* in *Sicily*, on the three and twentieth Day of the Month *September*.



And *Tancred* the Bastard, then King of *Sicily*, had imprisoned *Joanna* the Sister of *Richard*, whom he had taken to Wife : King *Richard* therefore assembled his Forces together, assaulted the City, and took it.

And in his Way to *Jerusalem* he conquered also the Island of *Cyprus*.

And he overcame *Saladin* the Turk in many Battles, and he took from him three thousand Camels, and four thousand Horses and Mules : he took also the Towns of *Ascalon*, *Joppa*, and *Cæsarea*, and behaved in all things with exceeding great Courage, insomuch that the Glory of the King of *England* eclipsed the Glory of all the Christian Princes.

And it came to pass after he returned from the Holy Land, as he sat at Meat in his Palace, Word was brought unto him that *Philip* King of *France* had laid Siege to one of his Towns.

Then *Richard* the King was exceedingly enraged, and he swore in his Wrath he would not turn his Face till he came to the Army of *Philip*.

And he caused the Wall of the Room where he was sitting to be broken down, and he assembled his Army together, and came up with the *French* ; and the Lord fought for him, and he discomfited the Army of *Philip*, and put them to flight, and he overthrew with his own Hand three of the most hardy Knights of *France*.

Wherefore he took for his Motto these Words, *Dieu & mon Droit* : and this Device is used by the Kings of *England* unto this Day.

And

And a certain Outlaw named *Robin Hood* infested the Forest of *Sherwood* in those Days, insomuch that none might pass that way without his Leave.

Howbeit he was a charitable Thief, giving unto the Poor what he took from the Rich; and the Blood of Man he did not shed.

And *Richard* reigned over *England* nine Years and nine Months, and he was wounded with an Arrow at the Siege of the Castle of *Chalons*, and the Wound mortified, and he died thereof, and *John* his Brother reigned in his stead.

## VII. JOHN.

AND *John* came not to the Crown by Hereditary Right, he received it from the Hands of *Hubert* the High Priest, who, in his Oration before the Assembly of the People, declared, that by all Reason, divine and human, none ought to succeed in the Kingdom, but who should be for the Worthiness of his Virtues universally chosen by the People, as was this Man.

Nevertheless his Virtues are not recorded, neither do we read of this his Election: peradventure it was a Lye.

And it came to pass that *Hubert* the High Priest died, and *Grey* Bishop of *Norwich* was elected by King *John* to succeed him.

But this Election was opposed by the Pope in favour of *Stephen Langton* a Cardinal, whom when *John* refused to admit, a Quarrel ensued betwixt the Pope and the King; insomuch that

the

the whole Nation was laid under an Interdict, the King was excommunicated, his Subjects were absolved from their Obedience, and all divine Ordinances ceased, the Burying-places were shut up, the Dead were cast out as Dogs, and remained unburied upon the Face of the Earth.

Howbeit this Severity brake not the Spirit of *John*, nor humbled him a jot.

And in his Wrath he sware, by the Teeth of God, he would be revenged on the Pope and on all that took part with him.

Accordingly he banished the Bishops from the Kingdom, and confiscated the Lands and Goods of all the Priests that obey'd the Interdict.

Now when the Pope perceived the Stubbornness of *John*, and that the roaring of his Bulls availed not ; he sent Messengers unto *Philip* the King of *France*, and they came unto the King, and they addressed him, saying :

O *Philip*, thus saith the Pope : As thou regardest the Remission of thy Sins, assemble now thy Army together, and drive out King *John* from the Throne of *England*, and thou and thy Sons after thee shall possess it for ever.

And *Philip* raised an Army, and prepared to invade *England*.

Then *John* was sore troubled, and his Heart smote him, and he humbled himself before *Pandolphus* the Legate of the Pope, and he took his Crown from off his Head, and laid it at the Feet of *Pandolphus*.

He resigned also his Kingdom unto the Pope, and he took an Oath that he and his Successors



should hold it from the See of *Rome*, at the annual Tribute of a Thousand Marks of Silver.

Thus ended the Contest betwixt the Spiritual and Temporal Sword : And *John* returned to the Bosom of the Church, and continued a dutiful Son all the Days of his Life.

Wherefore the Holy Father supported him against his Subjects in all Manner of Wickedness and Oppression.

And he vexed them daily with new Taxes and Impositions, insomuch that the Barons and great Men of the Kingdom at length made War against him, in behalf of their Rights and Liberties.

Now these were called the Barons Wars, and the Sword of Justice prevailed, and they compelled the King to confirm their ancient Privileges, and he signed a Charter of Rights, which is called *Magna Charta* unto this Day.

Thus wicked Princes are sometimes the Instruments of Good to a People whom the Lord loveth.

Now the rest of the Acts of King *John*, the \* Bridge that he built, and his † Blasphemy on the Buck, are they not recorded in the Book of *Baker* the Historian ?

And *John* reigned over *England* eighteen Years and five Months, and he died, and *Henry* his Son reigned in his stead. VIII.

\* *London* Bridge, which was before of Wood, being burnt down in this Reign, it was then rebuilt with Stone as it now remains.

† It is said, that being a hunting one Day, at the opening of a fat Buck : See, said he, how this Deer hath prosper'd, and how fat he is ! and yet I dare swear he never heard Mass in his Life.



## VIII. HENRY III.

**A**ND *Henry* was nine Years old when he began to reign, and he reigned over *England* fifty and five Years, and his Mother's Name was *Isabel*.

Now the Acts of King *Henry*, and all the foolish Things that he did, behold they are written in the Book of *Speed* the Historian.

He that hath Patience to read, let him read.

And *Henry* liv'd all the Days of his Life, and he died, and *Edward* his Son reigned in his stead.

## IX. EDWARD I.

**A**ND the Lord pitched his Tabernacle in the Heart of King *Edward*, and he became a great Prince, and was called *Long-shanks*.

And he conquer'd the Kingdom of *Wales*, and overthrew *Lewellen* the King in Battle, and slew him, and cut off his Head and crowned it with Ivy, and set it upon the Tower of *London* as a Terror to *Wales*.

And great Fear came upon all *Welchmen*, and they submitted themselves unto *Edward*, and the two Nations became as one People unto this Day.

And it came to pass that *Alexander* King of *Scotland* died, and great Contentions arose between the Lords *Baliol* and *Bruce* who should be King.

And the Matter was refer'd unto *Edward*, and he gave it in favour of *Baliol*, and *Baliol*

was made King, and did Homage unto *Edward* for his whole Kingdom.

And *Edward* the King treated King *Baliol* with great Haughtiness, and summon'd him to appear before him on every little Complaint.

Wherefore the Anger of *Baliol* was kindled against him, and his Heart swelled with Indignation, and he sought how he might cast off the Yoke which galled his Neck.

And he sent Messengers unto the Pope, and got himself absolved from the Oaths he had taken to King *Edward*, and renounced his Sovereignty.

Then *Edward* the King rais'd an Army and marched against him, and the Lord gave up *Baliol* into the Hands of his Enemies, and he was taken Prisoner, and carry'd to the Tower of *London*.

And *Edward* conquer'd the Kingdom of *Scotland*, and subjected it unto him: and he burnt the Records of the Kingdom, and he seized the Crown, and the Scepter, and all the Regalia, and brought them away:

And the Stone also which was *Jacob's* Pillow, and the Chair of Wood which enclosed it, and it is the Coronation Chair unto this Day.

And *Edward* the King enacted divers good Laws and useful Ordinances: and he laid great Fines on many of his Judges and other Magistrates for their Corruption; and he raised from their Crimes two hundred and thirty six-thousand Marks.

He banished also the *Jews*, to the Number of fifteen thousand, and confiscated their Goods.

And *Edward* reigned over *England* thirty and four Years, seven Months, and twenty Days; and he died, and *Edward* his Son reigned in his stead.

## X. *EDWARD* II.

**N**OW *Edward* was a wicked Prince, and did that which was Evil in the Sight of the Lord.

And he departed from the Worship of his Fathers, and made unto himself two Idols: and the Name of the one was *Gaveston*, and the Name of the other was *Spencer*.

And he set them up in his high Places, and commanded them to be worshiped.

Howbeit certain of the Nobles and great Men of the Kingdom refused to bow down before the Idols, which *Edward* the King had set up.

And great Tumults ensued, and the Nobles rose up against the King, and reprov'd him, saying: O King, the Gods which thou hast set up are Idols, which we nor our Fathers ever knew, neither will we worship.

Moreover they plucked them down from their high Places, and dashed them in pieces, and utterly destroyed them.

Nevertheless the King repented not, neither turned he from the Evil of his Ways; wherefore they took from him the Crown, and the Scepter, and the Royal Robes, and they deposed him from the Government of the Kingdom, after he had reigned over *England* nineteen Years, six Months and fifteen Days; and *Edward* his Son reigned in his stead.



XI. *EDWARD* III.

**A**ND *Edward* was fourteen Years old when he began to reign, and he reigned over *England* fifty Years, and his Mother's Name was *Isabella*.

And she took upon her the Government of the Kingdom during the Infancy of her Son : and her Heart lusted after Idols, and after all the Abominations of her Husband.

And she made unto herself an Idol, and called its Name *Mortimer* ; and she fell down before it, and worshiped with great Zeal, Day and Night.

Howbeit when *Edward* the King became of Age, he was greatly offended at the Abominations of his Mother : wherefore he put her in Prison, and he plucked down the Idol which she had set up, and he hung it on a Tree, even the Tree of *Tyburn*.

And *Edward* became a great and mighty King, and begat a Son, and called him after his own Name : moreover he was afterwards surnamed the *Black Prince*, and he waxed strong and valiant, and became a mighty Warriour in the Land.

And he fought the Battles of his Father, and the Arm of the Lord was with him, and he conquered the Kingdom of *France*, and took Prisoner the King thereof, with his Son and many of the Nobles.

And *Edward* the King took on him the Sovereignty of *France*, and he quarter'd the Arms of

of the Kingdom; and his Successors are called Kings of *France* unto this Day.

And the *Black Prince* restored also to his Kingdom *Peter King of Castile*, and defeated his Enemies.

And his Name became great over all the Earth, and the Princes thereof sought his Friendship.

Howbeit, as it is written of old, *the Race is not to the swift, nor the Battle to the strong*, a Distemper took him, and he died in the forty and sixth Year of his Age; and the Glory of *Edward* his Father from that time forth diminished.

In these Days lived thilk grete Poet, hight *Geoffery Chaucere*, the Fader of *Englisch* Poesie, whose Workis ben ritten in Rime, and imprinted in a Boke, yclyped the Workis of Maister *Geoffery Chaucere*: and he smothed the Tonge of his Contrie, and his Fame is woxen grete in the Lond.

Now the rest of the Acts of King *Edward*, and the noble Order of the Garter that he instituted, behold they are written in the Book of *Ashmole* the Herald.

And *Edward* reigned over *England* fifty Years, and he died, and *Richard* his Grandson reigned in his stead.

## XII. RICHARD II.

**A**ND *Richard* was a wicked Prince, and did that which was evil in the Sight of the Lord, oppressing the People, and loading them with grievous Impositions.

And he laid a Tax on the Heads of all his Subjects from fifteen Years old and upwards, of what

what Sex, or Condition soever, which was called the Poll-Tax, and it was collected with great Strictness and Severity.

And it came to pass, that one of the Tax-gatherers came to the House of a certain Tyler at the Town of *Darford* in *Kent*, commonly called *Wat* the Tyler, and demanded the Tax for one of his Daughters.

And *Wat* the Tyler said unto him, Nay verily, but thou shouldst not demand the Tax of my Daughter, for the Maiden is not yet fifteen Years old.

Howbeit the Tax-gatherer believed not the Words of her Father, for the Virgin was fair and comely to look on.

Wherefore he stooped down, and put his Hand beneath the Garments of the Maiden, to see if peradventure the Signs of her Womanhood might not appear; and he discovered her Nakedness.

And the Virgin was covered with Shame, inasmuch that she spake not a Word.

But the Impudence of the Thing incensed her Father, and his Indignation kindled against the Officer, and he had a Hammer in his Hand, with which he strake him on the Head that his Brains came out.

And immediately a great Tumult arose, and all the People defended the Action of *Wat* the Tyler, and praised his Courage: moreover they chose him for their Captain, and determined to abolish the Tax.

And they marched in a Body and encamped on *Black-Heath*, and he was joined there by



*Jack Straw*, and their Number encreased to an hundred Thousand Men.

And a certain Priest named *Ball*, was Chaplain to the Army, and he preached to the Multitude from these Words,

*When Adam dalve and Eve span,*

*Who was then a Gentleman?*

From hence he taught them that all Men were born equal, that it was never the Design of Heaven that one part of Mankind should be the Slaves and Vassals of the other; and therefore exhorted them to destroy the Nobility, the Clergy, the Magistrates, and all who pretended to lord it over them.

With these pious Resolutions they marched to *London*, and encamp'd on *Tower-Hill*, plundering and burning the Houses of all whom they thought their Enemies.

And they set fire to the Temple, and burnt and destroyed the Writings of all the Lawyers; they burned also the Palace and all the rich Furniture of the Duke of *Lancaster* in the *Savoy*.

And they dragged from the Churches and from the Altars many who had fled for Refuge, and slew them in the Streets.

And they strake off the Head of *Simon Sudbury* Archbishop of *Canterbury*, and *Hales* the High Treasurer, and many more on *Tower-Hill*.

Then the King sent Messengers unto them, desiring to know what they would have: and *Wat* the Tyler demanded to speak with the King in Person.

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Then

Then *Richard* the King, attended by many of his Nobles, and the Mayor and the Aldermen of *London*, went forth to meet him, and they met him in *Smithfield*.

And he behaved with great Arrogance, and his Demands were so extravagant that the King knew not what Answer to make unto him.

Moreover he commanded the Squire who held the Sword of the King to deliver it to him: howbeit the Squire took Courage and refused to deliver it, saying, The Sword of a King would ill become the Hand of a Knave.

Now *Wat* the Tyler was vexed at this Saying, and he advanced with his Sword to slay the Squire.

Then *William Walworth*, the Mayor of *London*, was exceedingly enraged at the Insolence of the Tyler, and he stepped forth, and smote him with a Dagger that he died: Wherefore the Dagger was added to the Arms of the City.

Thus ended the Insurrection of *Wat* Tyler and *Jack Straw*; and all the Rabble returned each to his own House.

And *Richard* the King made unto himself Idols, as *Edward* the Second his Predecessor had done: and the Thing which he did, displeased the People, and they deposed him from the Government; and they took the Crown from off his Head, and put it on the Head of *Henry* Duke of *Lancaster*, the Son of *John* of *Gaunt*.

XIII. *H E N R Y* IV.

**A**ND *Henry* was thirty and three Years old when he began to reign, and he reigned over *England* thirteen Years, five Months, and one and twenty Days.

And he did that which was evil in the Sight of the Lord, as most of his Fathers had done.

Howbeit he made an Act for burning of Hereticks; and they that could not believe as the Church commanded, were tied to a Stake till the Flames consumed them: and for this he was called by the Priests and the Monks, the Writers of that Time, a pious and religious Prince.

And he was seized with an Apoplexy, and he died, and *Henry* his Son reigned in his stead.

XIV. *H E N R Y* V.

**A**ND *Henry* was a valiant Prince, and a great Warriour.

And he laid claim to the Crown of *France*, and marched into the Kingdom with an Army of thirty Thousand Men, taking the Town of *Harfleur*, with many other strong Towns.

And he defeated the *French* Army at the Battle of *Agincourt*, and slew to the Number of sixty Thousand Men. And the Lord fought for him, and the whole Kingdom was given into his Hands, and he appointed *John* Duke of *Bedford* the Regent thereof.

And it came to pass that the Doctrines of *Wickliffe* the Preacher, who had been condemn-



ed by the Church as an Heretick, began now to spread over *England*, and prevailed much.

And the Tenets he taught were these : That the Bread and Wine in the Sacrament of the Altar, still continued to be Bread and Wine after the Consecration of the Priest ; that the Worship of Images was Idolatry and a great Sin ; that Pilgrimages, Penances, and Confessions to the Priests were not at all necessary to Salvation, but only a good Life.

Now these were esteemed detestable Doctrines, and damnable Heresies.

And great Fear came upon all Priests, lest the Eyes of the People should be opened, and their Craft exposed : wherefore they besought the King that he would join with him in extirpating out of the Land all who should teach or profess these dangerous Truths.

And Sir *John Oldcastle* Lord *Cobham*, a Man of Virtue and great Reputation, with Sir *Robert Acton*, and many others, were hanged and burnt in *Smithfield* for professing the same.

Thus Truth was defeated, and Ignorance again prevailed in the Land ; the Priests and the *Levites* triumphed, and the Minds of the People were cloathed in Darkness, and fed with Error.

Now the rest of the Acts of King *Henry*, and all that he did, are they not written in the Books of the *Chronicles* of the Kings of *England*?

And *Henry* reigned over *England* thirty and four Years, and he died, and *Henry* his Son reigned in his stead.

## XV. H E N R Y VI.

**A**ND *Henry* was eight Months old when he began to reign, and he reigned over *England* thirty and nine Years, and his Mother's Name was *Catharine*.

And in him was fulfilled what was written of old, *Woe to that Nation whose King is a Child*: for he proved a weak and unfortunate Prince, losing by his Misconduct all that *Henry* his Father had won.

And in these Days there appeared a false Prophetess, named *Joan of Arc*; and she called herself the *Maid of God*, and pretended to be sent from Heaven to deliver the Kingdom of *France* from the *English* Yoke.

And she wrought Miracles, and performed many wonderous Things.

She rais'd also the Siege of *Orleans*, and defeated the *English* wherever she came, insomuch that the *French* believed her to be conducted by the Finger of God; but the *English* thought her sent from the Devil, and the Soldiers began to be terrified at her Presence.

Howbeit she was at length taken by the *English* at the City of *Roan* in *Normandy*; and she was convicted of Witchcraft, and they burnt her there, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Prophet, *Thou shalt not suffer a Witch to live*.

In this Reign began the cruel War betwixt the two Houses of *York* and *Lancaster*, where  
Brother

Brother fought with Brother, the Father against his Son and the Son against his Father, till the Rivers flow'd with the Blood thereof, and Rage and Slaughter made desolate the Land.

At length *Edward Plantagenet* Duke of *York*, having overthrown the King in many Battles and taken him Prisoner, deposed him from the Government, and was crowned King of *England*.

## XVI. *EDWARD IV.*

**A**N D *Edward* was nineteen Years old when he came to the Crown, and he was tall and well favour'd, and of an exceeding graceful Presence.

Moreover he was a Prince of great Courage and Wisdom, and he set himself to enact good Laws, and to reform the Abuses in his Government.

And he sat in the Court of Justice three Days himself, that he might be a Witness how his Laws were executed.

And many more good Qualities had *Edward*; howbeit he lusted after Women exceedingly, and he was a gallant Prince, and young and handsome to look on; wherefore the Hearts of the Ladies were in his Hand.

And it came to pass that *Matthew Shore*, a Goldsmith in *London*, had taken to Wife the most beautiful Virgin in all the City.

And the Fame of her Beauty reached the Ears of the King, and he disguised himself as a Merchant, and went to the House of *Shore*, pretending to buy Jewels.

And



And when he saw how exceeding fair she was, even beyond what Fame had reported unto him, his Heart was smitten with Love, and he burned to enjoy her.

Wherefore he discovered himself, and took her home to his Bed, and she lived in Adultery with him all the Days of his Life.

In his Reign was born *Thomas Parr*, of the County of *Salop*, who lived during the Reign of ten Kings, even to the Days of King *Charles I.* when he died, being an hundred fifty and two Years old.

Moreover he did Penance for the Sin of Fornication at the Age of an hundred Years.

And *Edward* reigned twenty and three Years, and he died, and was buried in his own Tomb at *Windsor*, and *Edward* his Son reigned in his stead.

## XVII. *EDWARD V.*

AND *Edward* was eleven Years old when he began to reign, and he reigned over *England* nine Weeks and three Days, and was murder'd in the Tower by his Uncle *Richard*, the crooked Duke of *Gloucester*.

## XVIII. *RICHARD III.*

AND *Richard* took on him the Government of the Kingdom, and set the Crown upon his own Head.

And in order to clear his Way to the Throne, and secure to himself the Possession thereof, he murder'd all who stood in his Way.

Where-

Wherefore the Anger of the Lord was kindled against him, and he smote him by the Hand of *Henry Earl of Richmond*, of the House of *York*, and he died in the Field of Battle, even *Bosworth Field*.

Thus ended the War betwixt the two Houses of *York* and *Lancaster*, after twelve pitch'd Battles had been fought, in which there were slain two Kings, one Prince, ten Dukes, two Marquesses, twenty one Earls, twenty seven Lords, two Viscounts, one Lord Prior, one Judge, one hundred and thirty three Knights, four hundred and forty one Esquires, and eighty four thousand nine hundred ninety and eight private Soldiers.

And they took the Crown from the Head of King *Richard*, and put it on the Head of *Henry Earl of Richmond*; and all the Army shouted for Joy, and cried out, *Long live King Henry the Seventh*.

And the Body of *Richard* was found in the Field of Battle, and they laid it on a Horse, and brought it to the City of *Leicester*, and it was buried there, and *Henry of Richmond* reigned in his stead.

## XIX. H E N R Y VII.

NOW *Henry* was a wise and politick Prince, and he set himself by all manner of Ways to secure the Throne to himself and his Successors for ever.

And he extorted from his Subjects great Sums of Money, and filled his Coffers, and the whole Study of his Life was to heap up Riches.

To

To this End he made use of two Men, and the Name of the one was *Empson*, and the Name of the other was *Dudley*.

And he gave them Power and Authority to plunder and oppress his Subjects; and they exercised all manner of Injustice upon them, accusing the Innocent of Crimes, and amercing and fining them in great Sums without Trial, converting Law and Justice into Rapine and Cruelty.

Now whether it were out of an Affectation of State and Grandeur, or peradventure that he feared some sudden Attempt upon his Person, (for he was not beloved of the People) he appointed a Band of tall Men to attend him, called the Yeomen of the Guard, which all the Kings of *England* since have kept unto this Day.

And in his Reign there arose two Impostors one after the other, laying claim to the Crown of *England*.

And the Name of the one was *Simmel*, a Baker's Son; and the Name of the other was *Perkin Warbeck*; each pretending to be *Richard* Duke of *York*, Brother to King *Edward* the Fifth.

Howbeit the first was quickly suppress'd, and after having been crown'd King in *Dublin*, had the Honour to be made King *Henry's* Turnspit.

As to the other, after many Honours done him in the Courts of *France*, *Spain* and *Scotland*, as a Prince of the Royal Blood, he was at last advanced to the Pinnacle of *Tyburn*.

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And



And in these Days a strange Disease arose, and was called the Sweating Sickness; and it continued for the space of a Month, and swept away great Numbers.

But woe unto you Whoremongers, Adulterers, and Fornicators, and woe unto you Harlots and Street-walkers, that lie in wait for Prey, and spread your Nets in every Corner; for a Disease \* hath stricken ye thro' the Reins, and the Heat of your Lusts shall burn ye up.

Now the rest of the Acts of King *Henry*, and the magnificent Chapel that he built, are they not written in the Book of *Bacon* the Historian?

And *Henry* reigned over *England* twenty and three Years and eight Months, and he died, and *Henry* his Son reigned in his stead.

## XX. HENRY VIII.

AND *Henry* was eighteen Years old when he began to reign, and he reigned over *England* thirty and eight Years, and his Mother's Name was *Elizabeth*.

And he gat the Love of his Subjects in the Beginning of his Reign, by causing to be executed as Traytors and Oppressors, those wicked Instruments of his Father, *Empson* and *Dudley*.

Moreover he won favour in their Eyes, by spending amongst them in Balls and Shews, and sumptuous Feasts, those immense Treasures which had been drained from them, and hoarded up in the Coffers of his Father.

And

\* In this Reign the Pox was first known in *England*.

And in these Days the Iniquity of the Popedom was arrived at its full height ; infomuch that Indulgences for all manner of Crimes were publickly sold for Money ; and all kinds of People, how vile and profligate soever, were promis'd everlasting Happiness on purchasing them.

Now the Impiety of these things provok'd the Indignation of *Martin Luther*, and he exposed the Absurdity of them in many Books. Moreover, he censured the Usurpation of the Pope, and made a mock of his Authority.

Then *Henry* the King, in the Zeal of his Heart, wrote an Answer to *Martin Luther*, defending the Pope ; and from henceforth he and his Successors are honoured with the Title of *Defender of the Faith*.

Howbeit he afterwards threw off the Pope's Authority, and departed from many of the Errors of the Church of *Rome*.

Wherefore the Thunder of the Pope was levell'd against him, and he was excommunicated ; his Subjects also were absolv'd from their Obedience, and all the Princes of *Europe* were excited to make War upon him.

But *Henry* was beloved at home, and feared abroad ; wherefore the Thunder of the Pope was despised ; neither was he terrified with all the fiery Bolts of his Wrath.

And *Henry* made unto himself a great Idol, the Likeness of which was not in Heaven above, nor in the Earth beneath. And he reared up his Head unto the Clouds, and extended his Arm over all the Land.

His Legs also were as the Posts of a Gate, or as an Arch stretched forth over the Doors of all the publick Offices in the Land; and whosoever went out, or whosoever came in, passed beneath, and with idolatrous Reverence lift up their Eyes, and kissed the Cheeks of the Postern.

And all the People both small and great fell down before him and worshiped; for they feared his Power.

Priests also and Bishops brought him Water to wash, and Dukes and Nobles held the Towel.

Howbeit he fell down from the Pinnacle of his Greatness, and was dashed in pieces, even as a Potter's Vessel. Wherefore let him that standeth, take heed lest he fall.

And *Henry* was a gracious King, but a Tyrannical Husband.

And he took unto himself six Wives, but they pleased him not; wherefore he accused them of Incontinence and divers Crimes, and put them away. Moreover, he beheaded some, and some he put in prison, and he dealt cruelly with them.

And it came to pass, when a certain Priest in one of his Sermons defended the King in this Matter, that all the Women of the Town rose up against him, and they stoned him with Stones, and drove him from amongst them.

Now the rest of the Acts of King *Henry* and all that he did, are they not written in the Books of the *Chronicles* of the Kings of *England*?



And *Henry* was a Man of great Parts and much Experience, and could penetrate very far into hidden Things; yea, so great was the Opinion of his Capacity, that the Measure of his Abilities is preserv'd in the Tower of *London* unto this day; and it behoveth all Men to humble themselves before him, and confess his superior Greatness.

And *Henry* slept with his Fathers, and *Edward* his Son reigned in his stead.

## XXI. *EDWARD VI.*

**N**OW *Edward* was nine Years old when he began to reign, and he reigned over *England* six Years and five Months.

And he was a pious Prince, and he loved the Truth, and promoted the Reformation which *Henry* his Father had begun.

Howbeit he was cut off as a Flower in its Bud, or as a Rose in the Morning-Sun: his Days also were as a Span, and the Years of his Reign as a Shadow that passeth away: but his Memory smelleth sweet for ever.

And he appointed for his Successor the Lady *Jane Grey*, and she was proclaimed Queen; but the Party of *Mary* prevailing, *Jane* was beheaded in the Tower of *London*, and *Mary* her Sister reigned in her stead.

## XXII. *MARY.*

**A**ND *Mary* adhered to the Church of *Rome*, and she revived the Errors thereof, and restored all the ancient Forms and foolish Ceremonies.

Moreover she was of a cruel Nature, and she persecuted unto Death all who oppos'd her Doctrines, and her Reign stinketh of Blood unto this Day.

Old Men and Children, young Men and Maidens, they also that gave suck, with the Infant at the Breast, she burned at the Stake; and the Fire of Persecution was not quenched all the Days of her Life:

But the Vengeance of the Lord overtook her, and she was torn from the Face of the Earth as a Bramble that choaketh the Field, and her Name is an Abomination.

And from the time that she was crown'd to the Day which the Lord smote her with Sickness, was five Years and four Months, and she dy'd, and *Elizabeth* her Sister reigned in her stead.

### XXIII. *ELIZABETH.*

**N**OW *Elizabeth* was twenty and five Years old when she began to reign, and she reigned over *England* forty and four Years, four Months, and seven Days, and her Mother's Name was *Anna Bullen*.

And she was endow'd with Wisdom from above, and the Spirit of the Almighty gave her Understanding: she chose unto herself wise and able Ministers; she hearken'd unto their Counsels, and she governed her Kingdom with Power and great Glory.

The Sea also was subject unto her, and she reigned on the Ocean with a mighty Hand.

Her

Her Admirals compassed the World about,  
and brought her home Treasures from the  
uttermoſt Parts of the Earth.

The Glory of *England* ſhe advanced to its  
height, and all the Princes of the Earth fought  
her Love; her Love was fixed on the Happi-  
neſs of her People, and would not be divided.

The *Æra* of Learning was alſo in her Reign,  
and the Genius of Wit ſhone bright in the  
Land.

*Spencer* and *Shakeſpear*, *Verulam* and *Sidney*,  
*Raleigh* and *Drake* adorned her Court, and  
made her Reign immortal.

And woe unto you *Spāniards*, woe unto you,  
ye haughty Uſurpers of the *American* Seas; for  
at the Lightning of her Eyes ye were deſtroyed,  
and at the Breath of her Mouth ye were ſcat-  
ter'd abroad: ſhe came upon your Armado as  
a Whirlwind, and as a Tempeſt of Thunder  
ſhe overwhelmed you in the Sea.

Wiſdom and Strength were in her Right  
Hand, and in her Left were Glory and Wealth.

She ſpoke, and it was War; ſhe waved her  
Hand, and the Nations dwelt in Peace.

Her Miniſters were juſt, her Counſellors  
were ſage; her Captains were bold, and her  
Maids of Honour ate Beef-Steaks for Breakfast.

Now the reſt of the Acts of Queen *Eliza-  
beth*, and all the glorious Things that ſhe did,  
are they not written in the Books of the Chro-  
nicles of the Kings of *England*?

And *Elizabeth* ſlept with her Fathers, and  
ſhe was a Virgin; ſhe taſted not of man, nei-  
ther



ther submitted she herself unto him all the Days of her Life.

And she was bury'd in the Chapel of King *Henry* the seventh, and *James* of *Scotland* reigned in her stead.

## JAMES I.

AND *Jamie* thought himself a bonny King, and a mickle wise Mon. Howbeit he was a Fool and a Pedant.

But the Spirit of Flattery went forth in the Land, and the great Men and the Bishops offer'd Incense unto him, saying,

O most *sacred* King! Thou art wiser than the Children of Men! thou speakest by the Spirit of God! there has been none equal to thee before thee, neither will any arise after thee like unto thee.

Thus they abused him daily with lying and fulsome Adulation.

And the Ear of *James* was tickled therewith, and he was puffed up, and he thought himself wise; whereupon he began to dispute with the Doctors, and to decide Controversies, and to write Books; and the World was undeceived.

Howbeit a new Translation of the Bible was set on Foot in his Reign, and it was executed with great Care and Exactness, and the same is read by the People unto this Day.

In this Reign also the two Kingdoms of *England* and *Scotland* were united together, and

he gave unto them the Name of *Great Britain*; and the two Nations became as one People.

Moreover he issued a Proclamation to enforce the Act of Uniformity; and of ten thousand pious Ministers that dispensed the Word, but forty and nine were found that did not conform.

And the forty and nine who had Consciences were suspended; but the nine thousand fifty and one who had no Conscience, were continued as faithful Ministers of the Word.

And it came to pass in the Third Year of his Reign, that the Pope and the Devil laid their Heads together and contrived a most grievous Plot.

And the Pope said unto the Devil, Where-with shall we destroy him? And the Devil said unto the Pope, I will do it with Gunpowder.

Howbeit the Wisdom of *James* was greater than the Wisdom of the Pope and the Devil, and he smelled out their Plot, and prevented it.

And *James* was glad that he was alive, therefore he appointed the fifth Day of the Month *November* as a Day of Thanksgiving for ever. And Bonfires are made, and Squibs and Crackers are let off in the Streets, in Derision of the Devil and his Gunpowder Plot unto this Day.

Now *James* the King was of a sociable and loving Nature, and he could not be without a Bosom Friend, with whom he might communicate his *internos sensus*, and upon whose

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Shoulders he might sometimes lay a Burthen, which he was not willing to bear himself.

Wherefore he cast an Eye of Favour upon Sir *Robert Carr*, a Gentleman of *Scotland*, of such exquisite Beauty, and so delicate a Composure of Body, as if Nature had framed him on Purpose to be a King's Favourite.

And the King loved him, and he pleased the King; nor was any Man Partaker of the Royal Influence like unto him, all Matters of Grace and Favour passing from the King by him, inso-much that the Queen was jealous.

Moreover it came to pass, that on *Easter Monday*, in the Year 1611, for his great Service done unto the King, he was created Viscount *Rochester*; on the two and twentieth of *April* 1612, he was sworn a Privy Counsellor; on the fourth of *November* 1613, he was created Earl of *Somerset*; and on the tenth of *July* following, he was made Lord Chamberlain; so true is that Saying,

*Improbe amor, quid non mortalia pectora cogis?*

But this Sunshine of Fortune lasted not long; whether the King grew weary of him, as not being so agreeable as when he was first taken into Favour, or whether the Machinations of the jealous Queen wrought his Destruction, we cannot say; but being suspected of contriving the Death of Sir *Thomas Overbury* by Poison, he was arraigned and condemn'd for the same; and though, through the Clemency



of the King, his Life was spared, he was never after suffered to see the King's Face, nor to come near his Court.

Howbeit the King could not be long without an *Alter idem*; wherefore he took unto himself a beautiful Youth named *George Villiers*; and he loaded him with Honours, and used him in all Respects like unto the other.

And *James* believed himself a great King, and conceived high Notions of the Royal Prerogative; insomuch that he looked upon the Parliament as a troublesome and unnecessary Thing; and thought it extreamly hard, that so great a King should be bound by the Laws of the Land, or his Coronation Oath, or that he should be obliged to call a Parliament to make Laws, when he might do it alone by his absolute Power.

Moreover he approved the Book of Doctor *Blackwood*, which laid it down as a Principle, that the *English* were all Slaves by reason of the *Norman Conquest*.

With these Notions he poisoned himself and his Son, and laid the Foundation of those Troubles which ended in the Ruin of his Family.

And it came to pass in these Days, that a certain Impostor named *Richard Hadock* pretended to preach in his Sleep, in such sort, that though he were called aloud, or stirred and pulled by the Hands or Feet, yet he seemed not to hear or to feel.

And he continued to do this in the Presence of many Persons who resorted to hear him; insomuch that in a short Time his Fame was spread through the Land by the Name of the *sleeping Preacher*, and many were brought to believe that these his mighty Preachings were by Inspiration from Heaven.

*Tantum Religio potuit suadere Folorum!*

But the King discovered the Cheat, and commanded him in all Places to declare himself an Impostor.

Howbeit the Race of reverend Sleepers continue, and infest the Land with large long-labour'd Volumes of heavy and somniferous Lumber unto this Day.

And it came to pass in the seventeenth Year of the Reign of King James, that the Wife of his Bosom fell sick, and her Sickness was unto Death.

Then James the King was sore troubled, and he put on Sackcloth and bewailed himself; and so great was his Sorrow, that he spake not, neither did he eat for many Days.

Howbeit he was a wise Man, and he said within himself, Why should I be any longer troubled, or why should my Spirit be sunk within me? Our Tears avail not to the Dead, neither do they hear our Cries.

Sorrow dimmeth the Eyes, and Grief withereth the Countenance, but the Smile of a Friend reviveth the Heart.

So the King arose, and washed himself, and did eat Bread.

Now the rest of the Acts of King *James*, and his Wisdom, and his Learning, and all the Books that he wrote, behold thou mayest find them in the Chandlers Shops unto this Day.

And *James* slept with his Fathers, after he had reigned over *England* twenty and two Years, and *Charles* his Son reigned in his stead.

## C H A R L E S I.

**A**ND *Charles* was twenty and five Years old when he began to reign, and he reigned over *England* twenty and two Years and ten Months, and his Mother's Name was *Anne*.

And he was a pious and religious Prince, and wrote many godly Books; Hymns also and Prayers, and sundry Meditations were the Works of his Hands.

Howbeit he did that which was Evil in the Sight of the Lord, in following the Steps of his Father, and aspiring to absolute Power.

And the Anger of the Lord was kindled against him, and he caused a Spirit of Discontent to go forth among the People, and they came unto the King and besought him, saying:

Most gracious Sovereign! incline thine Ears, we beseech thee, unto the Voice of thy People, and let their Cry come unto thee: Behold we are a free People, we and our Fathers have been free Men unto this Day.

Wherefore now then are we oppressed with arbitrary Power, with forced Loans, with Ton-  
nage



nage and Poundage, with Ship-Money, and with divers Taxes imposed on us without the Authority of Parliament?

Wherefore is the Yoke of Bondage laid upon us? a Yoke which we nor our Fathers were able to bear.

Howbeit this Remonstrance pleased not the King, neither was he moved therewith, except unto Wrath; moreover he dissolved the Parliament, and continued in his evil Ways.

Then the Anger of the People waxed great, and they said amongst themselves, The King is ill advised, his Counsellors are naught; let us remove the Wicked from before the King, and his Throne shall be established in Righteousness.

So they accused *Villiers*, Duke of *Buckingham*, who was the King's prime Favourite and chief Minister, of divers Crimes and Misdemeanours; namely, that he engrossed into his Hands by evil Means a great Number of Offices and Employments, some whereof could hardly be executed by a single Person: That he favoured and promoted the Worship of *Rome*: That he neglected to guard the Seas and protect the Merchants: That he constrained several Persons to purchase Titles of Honour, particularly the Lord *Robartes* of *Truro*, whom he enforced to pay ten thousand Pounds for the Title of Baron: That he procured to his Kindred and Allies, and other unworthy Persons, many Titles and Honours without their having done the State any Service: With divers notorious Crimes and heinous Offences.

Wherefore they most humbly besought the King, even for his own Honour and the Honour of Almighty God, for the Safety and Welfare of his Kingdom, and for the Love which as a kind Father he bore unto his People, that he would be graciously pleased to remove this Person from Access to his sacred Presence, and that he would not ballance this one Man with all these Things : protesting, that until this great Man was removed from intermeddling with the Affairs of State, they were out of all Hopes of any good Success.

Nevertheless their Petition was rejected.

Moreover the King was exceeding wroth, and he commanded the Petition to be consumed with Fire, and all the Copies thereof to be destroyed. And he protected his Favourite from the publick Rage.

Howbeit he escaped not the Hand of Justice ; for the Anger of the Lord was kindled against him, and he stirred up the Zeal of *Felton* the Lieutenant, who smote him to the Heart that he dyed.

And it came to pass in these Days, that great Troubles arose in *England* on account of Religion : many, being smitten with the Tinsel Beauties of the Church of *Rome*, went a whoring after her Gods, and gave up their Hearts unto the Lusts thereof.

And, forasmuch as many Tokens of his Love appeared, it was thought that *Laud* the Archbishop was corrupted by her Fornications, that he had bowed the Knee unto her Idols, and lusted in his Heart after her Abominations.

Certain it is, he was very punctual in observing all the superstitious Gestures, the Bowings, the Washings, the Vestments, and all the painted Ornaments in which the scarlet Whore delighteth.

And he drew many after him, and occasioned much Trouble in the Land, and much Non-sense, and many trifling Disputes.

Moreover he was suspected of debauching the King into this lewd Amour, and imposing on his Royal Affections with the Paint and Patches of this inveigling Harlot. Wherefore the People rose up against *Laud*, and in the Fury of their Zeal they put him to Death.

Now these Things were done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Prophet, Blessed is he that watcheth and keepeth his Garments, lest he walk naked and they see his Shame.

And it came to pass that the whole Kingdom was possessed by two evil Spirits, the Spirit of Prelacy and the Spirit of Fanaticism. And the two Spirits strove together with great Fury, and the Land was involved in Blood and Confusion.

Howbeit the Spirit of Fanaticism prevailed, and the King was discomfited, and taken Prisoner, and committed to the Prison of *Canisbrooke* Castle in the *Isle of Wight*.

Then *Charles* lift up his Voice unto the Lord, saying, Judge me, O God, and plead my Cause against an ungodly Nation.

Mine Enemies have pursued and overtaken me, but do thou deliver me out of the Hand of the Wicked, out of the Hand of the unrighteous



teous and cruel Men: deliver me in thy Righteousness, and cause me to escape; Incline thine Ear unto me and save me.

Cast me not off in the Time of old Age, forsake me not when my Strength faileth.

Mine Enemies speak Evil against me, and they that lay wait for my Soul take counsel together, saying, God hath forsaken him, let us persecute and take him, for there is none to deliver him.

But let them be confounded and consumed that are Adversaries to my Soul, let them be covered with Reproach and Dishonour that seek my Hurt.

Howbeit the Prayer of *Charles* availed not, he was delivered up into the Hands of his Enemies; and they erected a new Court of Justice for the Trial of the King, and they brought an Accusation against him, saying,

He hath endeavoured to destroy the Rights and Liberties of the People, and to rule with an unlimited and tyrannical Power; for which End he hath levy'd War against the Parliament of *England* and the People thereof, and hath been the Cause of all the Blood which hath been shed in the Land.

Now *Charles* deny'd the Jurisdiction of this Court, and demanded to know by what Authority he was brought before them, or by what Law of *England* he could be try'd. But they answered him not a Word.

Howbeit a solemn Fast was appointed, to seek the Lord, and beg his Direction in the Murder of the King.

G

More-

Moreover an inspired Virgin was brought out of *Hertfordshire*, who pretended a Revelation from Heaven to encourage the Saints in their pious Work.

So they proceeded to this Tryal, and condemned him as a Tyrant, Traitor, Murderer, and a publick Enemy to the Commonwealth of *England*, to be put to Death by severing his Head from his Body.

Moreover, during the Time of his Tryal, the Head of his Cane fell off, and no Man knew why; wherefore it was thought the Cane prophesied of what should come to pass.

And they treated him with great Insolence, spitting upon him, and puffing Tobacco in his Face, which they knew was hateful unto him.

Howbeit he bore with Patience their Insults, neither opened he his Lips against them.

And on the 30th Day of the first Month, which is called *January*, a Scaffold was built before the Gates of his own Palace, and he was brought thereon, and his Head was cut off and shew'd unto the People. And some rejoiced, but many suppress'd the Groans which they durst not utter.

### *The COMMONWEALTH.*

AND it came to pass after the Death of King *Charles*, that the Commons passed an Act for annulling the House of Lords, and abolishing the Regal Power as useless, burthensome, and dangerous; and the Government of *England* was changed into a Commonwealth.

And

And the Duke of *Hamilton*, the Earl of *Holland*, the Lord *Capel*, and many others who had been of the King's Party, were put to Death.

Moreover it was enacted, that all who possessed any publick Post, should take out fresh Grants and new Oaths to qualify themselves for holding the same.

This grand Alteration in the Government occasioned also many others: the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy were abolished: Justice was no longer administer'd in the King's Name; but in the Names of the Keepers of the Liberties of *England*: A new Council of State, consisting of thirty nine Persons, was chosen for the Administration of publick Affairs under the Parliament: new Money was coin'd: and a new Great Seal was made, on one Side of which was seen the Parliament sitting, with this Inscription, *The great Seal of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of England*; on the other Side, the Arms of *England* and *Ireland*, with these Words, *The first Year of Freedom by God's Blessing restor'd*. And this Seal was committed to a certain number of Persons, who were stiled *Keepers of the Liberties of Great Britain*.

Many also were the Changes that were made in Religion; Episcopacy was abolished, the Common Prayer despised, Canting and Hypocrisy, and doing all kinds of Wickedness in the Name of the Lord, were the Signs of Grace; and every one worshiped God after the Foolishness of his own Heart.



Howbeit the Son of King *Charles*, who had fled beyond the Seas, was invited into *Scotland*, where he was proclaimed King; and he raised an Army of eighteen thousand Men, and marched into *England* to the City of *Worcester*, and encamped there.

And *Cromwell* with an Army of thirty thousand Men pursued him to the Gates of the City, where he pitched his Tents, and prepared to give him Battel.

Now *Cromwell* was a valiant Man, and his Ambition was great; and behold he was tempted of the Devil to sell himself unto him, on Condition that he should have Success in all his Undertakings for twenty and one Years.

But the Devil is a Cheat and a Liar from the Beginning; and it shall come to pass, that whosoever putteth his trust in him shall be deceived. He that hath Ears to hear, let him hear.

At some distance from the Army of *Cromwell* was a very thick Wood, in the middle of which the Devil appointed *Cromwell* to meet him, and to sign the Contract.

And it came to pass on the third Day of the Month *September*, early in the Morning, that *Cromwell* arose from his Bed, and took with him one of his stoutest Captains, whose Name was *Lindsey*, and they entered the Wood.

Howbeit the Heart of *Lindsey* was seized with Terror, his Hair stood up, he turned pale, and his Joints knocked together:

And

And he spake unto *Cromwell*, saying, Behold now mine Heart is smitten with Dread, my Spirit faileth, and I am even as a dead Man, yet I know not for why.

And *Cromwell* upbraided him with Cowardice, and said unto him, Fear not, come on.

But *Lindsey* the Captain answered and said, Thou knowest I am no Coward; yet verily, verily I say unto thee, my Joints at this Time are frozen with Terror and Astonishment, in so much that it is impossible for me to stir a Step.

Then *Cromwell* said unto him, Stand still, and attend to what thou seest. And he went a few Paces from him, and lo the Devil rose up before him in the Likeness of an ancient Man, with a Roll of Parchment in his Hand.

His Horns were in his Pocket, his Tail also and his Hoof were concealed beneath his Garment; wherefore *Lindsey* the Captain resumed his Courage, and he listened unto them with great Attention.

And *Cromwell* said unto the Devil, Satan, why hast thou deceived me? The Contract I made was for one and twenty Years, and behold thou hast drawn it for seven.

And the Devil said unto *Cromwell*, Seven Years is the utmost that I can allow unto thee, take it or leave it.

Then the Anger of *Cromwell* was kindled against the Devil, and he spake unto him with great Fierceness, saying, Fourteen Years thou shalt allow me, deny it if thou darest.

How-

Howbeit the Devil was obstinate, and they scolded together with great Fury ; and the Devil said unto *Cromwell*, If thou likest not the Bargain, another shall have it.

But *Cromwell* snatching the Parchment from his Hand, signed the Contract for seven Years ; whereupon the Devil in a Cloud of Smoke and Sulphur vanish'd from his Sight.

Then *Cromwell* returned to *Lindsey* in Triumph, saying, The Battle is our own, let us engage this Day, for the Devil hath given them into mine Hand.

But the Heart of *Lindsey* was smitten within him, and he fled from the Presence of *Cromwell*, and he rode Day and Night till he came to the House of a certain Priest, whose Name was *Thorowgood*, unto whom he told all that he had seen.

Moreover he prophesied, saying, Mine Eyes have seen it, the Hand of Death is upon him, and at the End of seven Years he shall surely die.

And *Thorowgood* the Priest was a Man of great Faith, and he believed the Tale, and he caused it to be written in a Book, and the Book is preserved unto this Day. Yet I would not that thou should'st look for it, lest peradventure it should be hard to find.

And *Cromwell* returned to his Army, and he drew them up in Battle array, and he assaulted the City and took it ; and the Army of the King was discomfited, and many were slain by the Edge of the Sword.

Never-



Nevertheless he fell not into the Hands of his Enemies, neither was he taken in their Snares : He was beset with Dangers round about, but the Hand of the Lord conducted him in Safety.

And it came to pass that he was pursued into the middle of a Wood, called *Boscobel*, and he got up into a Tree and concealed himself, that his Pursuers passed by and saw him not.

And the Tree is called the Royal Oak unto this Day.

In a Barn also he hid himself, two Days and two Nights concealed he himself from the Rage of his Enemies ; Straw only was his Bed, and he was fed by the Hand of a poor Woman with Buttermilk and Bread.

Moreover he stripped off his Royal Robes, and disguised himself in poor Array ; his Hands also and his Face he dyed with Walnuts ; a Hempen Shirt was next his Skin, and his outward Garment was a Leathern Doublet : in the Night also he fled, in the Darkness of the Night he escaped.

And he walked from the Going-down of the Sun even till the Morning-Star appeared, inso-much that his Feet were galled with Blood.

Many other Disguises put he on, and many other Perils did he encounter ; now on a Miller's Horse with dusty Bags, and now before a Country Dame on Horseback ; till at last arriving at the Sea-side, he escaped to France in a small Vessel belonging to a poor Fisherman.

Mean time the Power of *Cromwell* encreased, and his Glory grew unto the Height; insomuch that he set himself at the Head of the Commonwealth, and was called the Protector thereof.

### OLIVER CROMWELL Protector.

**N**OW *Cromwell* was a valiant Man, but a great Hypocrite; and he humoured the Times, pretending to Piety, and to consult the Lord in all his Doings.

Howbeit his Character is doubtful, whether he was a righteous Man or a Rogue; neither is it determin'd by which Appellation to call him unto this Day: Peradventure he was a Mixture of both.

Those who speak Evil of him say, that he set up himself as an Idol, and made the very Streets of *London* like unto the Valley of *Hinnom*, by burning the Bowels of Men as a Sacrifice to his *Melockship*: that his Pretence was Freedom for all Men, and that by the Help of that Pretence he made all Men his Slaves, setting up himself above all that ever were called Sovereign in *England*: that he summoned Parliaments with a Word of his Pen, and dispersed them again with the Breath of his Mouth: that he took Arms against Taxes of scarce two hundred thousand Pounds a Year, and raised them himself to above two Millions: that under the Pretence of reforming Religion, he robbed it even to the Skin, and then exposed it naked to the

Rage of all Sects and Heresies; that he fought against the King under a Commission for him, and then took him forcibly out of the Hands of those for whom he had conquer'd him, and butcher'd him in the open Face of all the whole World, with as little Shame as Conscience or Humanity.

Thus he is made a Monster of Baseness, Ingratitude, Hypocrisy, Rebellion and Usurpation.

Howbeit there are others who defend him; saying, He was an illustrious Warrior, a great Politician, a Man of the most consummate Prudence, and who had the Art of making himself both fear'd and respected; that if his Government be compared with those of the two last Kings, there will appear a very great Disparity with regard to the Glory and Reputation of the *English* Nation: that he made himself equally dreaded by *France* and *Spain*, and the *United Provinces*, who all courted his Friendship with such Ardour, that they may be said to have cringed to him beyond what was becoming: that if his Ambition led him to aggrandize himself, it also led him to advance the Glory of the *English* Name, and the Terror of their Arms even to the Pitch of *Roman* Greatness: that as to his Morals, he was guilty of few of the Vices to which Men are commonly addicted; Gluttony, Drunkenness, Gaming, Luxury, and Avarice, were Crimes with which he was never reproached: and as to his Religion, his Principle was, to leave every Man



at Liberty, and to persecute no one on that Account! In fine, that by his great Capacity and uncommon Abilities he raised himself to the supreme Dignity, supported himself in it with great Glory, and dying in Peace bequeathed it to his Posterity.

And now behold, he that was a Monster is become an Hero! Wherefore, gentle Reader, out of the two Characters here given, thou mayest form such a one as seemeth best in thine Eyes, and call him *Oliver Cromwell*.

And it came to pass on the third Day of the Month *September*, the Day on which he had signed the Devil's Contract, that Day his Life was required of him; that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by *Lindsey* the Prophet, *The Hand of Death is upon him, and at the End of seven Years he shall surely die.*

Now the rest of the Acts of this Ruler, and the surprizing Things that he did, behold they are written in the Books of the Chronicles of the Kings of *England*.

And *Cromwell* slept with his Fathers, and was buried in the Chapel of *Henry* the Seventh, and *Richard* his Son was Protector in his stead.

### **RICHARD CROMWELL** Protector.

**A**ND it came to pass that the Man *Richard* was presently found to be incapable of the Reins of Government; he had neither Capacity to manage, Judgment to guide, nor Resolution to hold them; wherefore the Parliament

ment took from him the Protectorship, and deposed him from the Government.

And now the Commonwealth was left to drive at random, the Government being sometimes administer'd by a Council of Officers, and sometimes by a Thing called a Committee of Safety, and great Confusion ensued in the Land.

And there dwelt a Man in the Northern Part of the Island which is called *Scotland*, whose Name was *Monk*: moreover he was the Governor thereof, and a great Warriour.

Now this Man, taking Advantage of the publick Distractions, assembled an Army and marched to *London*, declaring for a Restoration of the King.

And the People were terrified at his Presence, or peradventure they were weary with perpetual Changes and Commotions: wherefore they agreed to his Proposals, and sent Messengers unto the King, who was now in *Holland*, desiring his Return.

And it came to pass on the 29th Day of the fifth Month, which is called *May*, that the King was conducted in great State to his Palace at *Whitehall*, and all the People shouted, saying, *Long live the King*.

## CHARLES II.

NOW as many enormous Crimes had been committed by Men of all Degrees, in-somuch that it was apprehended great Numbers,

bers, not thinking themselves safe, would depart out of the Land; the first Thing that the King set himself to do was to publish an Act of Indemnity.

Howbeit, he excepted out of it forty and nine Persons, who had been principally concern'd in the Murder of his Father. Nevertheless, only ten of them were executed.

And the King repealed all Laws that had been made in Favour of a popular Government; moreover he restored the ancient Discipline of the Church, and replaced the Bishops in their former Dignity and Jurisdiction.

About this Time an Insurrection happened in London, set on foot by a small Remnant of *Enthusiasts*, not more than 50, in order to destroy all the Monarchies of the Earth.

These mad Religionists were called *Fifth Monarchy Men*, who by reading the Prophecies of *Daniel*, and the Revelations of *John*, had persuaded themselves that the Time of our Saviour's visible Reign on Earth was come; and therefore it was their Duty to take up Arms for King JESUS against the Powers of the World, and that no Weapon formed against them should prosper, but that one should chase a thousand, and two put ten thousand to flight.

In Confidence of this Prophecy being fulfilled, they declared that they would rise up against the Carnal, and possess the Gate of the World; that they would never sheath the Sword till *Babylon* (as they call'd Monarchy) should become a Hissing and a Curse, and there were left



left neither Remnant, Son, nor Nephew : And that when they had led Captivity Captive in *England*, they would then go into *France*, *Spain*, and *Germany*, and bind their Kings in Chains, and their Nobles in Fetters of Iron.

Howbeit these miserable Men were deluded, being cut off in the City by the Edge of the Sword, even by the Train-Bands of the City were they destroyed.

Now it came to pass that *Charles* gave a loose to his Appetites, and indulged himself in all manner of Delights ; and he sent forth his Pimps and his Nobles throughout all the Land to search for the most beautiful Women that could be found.

And they ministred unto the King according to his Wishes : One brought him Eyes that melted with a dying Softness, another Lips that seemed to say come kiss me ; this brought him snowy Breasts whose heaving Softness swelled with Love, and that a Shape whose wanton Motions seemed to promise Bliss luxuriant.

Now the King was pleased therewith, and he was enamoured of them all ; and he put forth his Scepter unto them, and the Land was filled with Royal Bastards.

Moreover the Nation taking Example from the Court, ran headlong into all manner of Licentiousness and Immorality. And having seen in the former Reign all kinds of Wickedness committed under the Mask of Piety, the least Appearance thereof was now thought Hypocrisy.

All

All the Wit of the Nation was turned to the Ridicule of Religion and Morality. The Stage became a School of Debauchery; and even the Pulpit, fearing to be too grave for the Times, abounded with Wit: And whereas before, they used to seek the Lord and implore his Direction even in the most trifling Affairs, it was now deemed almost superstitious to believe in him.

Howbeit the Religion of the King, says a noble \* Author, was, that which is vulgarly, though unjustly, called *none at all*, namely Deism.

But the Anger of the Lord was kindled against the King and against the People of *England*, and he smote the Land with a dreadful Pestilence, insomuch that there dyed in one Year upwards of sixty and seven thousand Persons: moreover in the following Year a terrible Fire fell on the City of *London*, which in four Days Time consumed the greatest Part thereof.

Nevertheless these Judgments made no Impression on the Spirit of *Charles*, who abandoned himself to his Pleasures, and was carry'd away so violently by his Lusts, that his whole Time and his Treasures were spent amongst Harlots; and all Matters relating to the Government of his Kingdoms were left unto the Management of his Brother the Duke of *York*.

And *Charles* was guided by his Brother in all Things, insomuch that the People murmur'd greatly. Wherefore *Killigrew* the Jester reported unto the Courtiers, saying, The King is very ill, and hath got a sore Nose.

\* The Duke of *Buckingham*.

Then went the Courtiers in unto the King and condoled with him, saying, We are sorry to hear your Majesty hath got a sore Nose. Whereat the King marveled greatly, asking who told them so? And they answered and said, *Killigrew* told us.

Then the King sent Messengers unto *Killigrew*, commanding him to come before him: and when he was come, the King said unto him, Why saidest thou, *Killigrew*, that I had got a sore Nose? And *Killigrew* answered and said, I concluded it must be sore, because your Majesty hath been led so long by it.

Howbeit the King liked not the Jest; moreover he reprov'd his Jester very severely. And (whether it was thought that Majesty was too serious a Joke to be laugh'd at, lest peradventure it should be made ridiculous; or that it was of too dangerous Example, as it might sometimes set the whole Nation a laughing at the King's Expence; but) from that Day no Jester hath been kept in the King's Court, only plain and solemn Fools.

Now the rest of the Acts of King *Charles* the Second, and his Wit, and his Gallantries, and all his Intrigues, behold thou mayest find them in bawdy Novels unto this Day.

And *Charles* slept with his Fathers, after he had reigned over *England* from the Time of his Restoration twenty and four Years, eight Months and nine Days, and *James* his Brother reigned in his stead.

J A M E S



## JAMES II.

**N**OW *James* was a Worshiper of the Church of *Rome*, he bowed the Knee unto her Idols, and went a whoring after all her Abominations: her Bowings, her Washings, her Sprinklings, her holy Vestments, her Incense, her Ointments, her Absolutions, her Masses, her Crosses, her Idols, her Miracles, her Lies. Moreover he was a zealous Bigot to all the absurd and foolish Tenets, which the Cunning of her Priests have invented to delude the Ignorant and enslave the Mighty.

Nevertheless, when he ascended the Throne of *England*, he made a Speech to the People, declaring he would support the Constitution both in Church and State, as it was by Law established.

Howbeit he afterwards thought fit to act contrary to this Declaration in every Instance, peradventure he made it with a mental Reservation for that very Purpose.

And it came to pass, that the Lord stirred up the Heart of the Duke of *Monmouth*, and he rebelled against him, and entered the Land with an Army; but he was defeated and taken Prisoner, and his Head was smitten off on Tower Hill.

Many of his Soldiers also were taken, inso-much that the Prisons of the West were filled therewith.

And *Jeffries* the Judge was appointed to try them: and behold it was Judgment without Mercy;

Mercy; he looked on them, and they were condemned; he opened his Lips, and it was Death unto them.

Yea, so great was his Cruelty, that when their Eyes rolled in the Agonies of Death, then he mocked; and when their Legs quivered in the Air, then he sent for Musick, and called it Dancing. Wherefore let his Name perish from the Face of the Earth, and let all his Generation be hanged by the Neck.

But woe unto thee, † O *Kirk*! woe unto thee, thou barbarous Insulter of wronged Innocence! Let thy Sin be detested in all Ages, and let thy Name be accursed from Generation to Generation! For behold thou hast done Iniquity in the Sight of the Lord, the Cry of thine Abomination is gone up unto Heaven; and it shall come to pass, that whosoever heareth thy Tale shall curse thee.

Now the Thing which he did was this:

It came to pass in the Town of *Taunton*, that he had condemned an ancient Man unto Death, and he was to be executed on the Sign-Post of the House where *Kirk* was sitting.

Then came the Daughter of the poor old Man, a lovely Maiden, her Cheeks were wash-  
I ed

† Major General *Kirk* was appointed to attend on *Jeffries* in this bloody Business with a Troop of Soldiers, to keep the People in Awe, who hanged several by his own Authority, without any Trial. It was not possible for the King to find in the whole Kingdom two Men more destitute of Religion, Honour and Humanity. They were two cruel and merciless Tigers, that delighted in Blood. *Rapin.*

ed with Tears as a Rose in the Morning-Dew,  
and the Look of her Eye was Innocence distressed.

And she threw herself at his Feet, and embraced his Knees for some Time in silent Grief, and in the utmost Agony of Heart.

At length, when Words could find a Passage, she lift up her Eyes, still dropping with Tears, and besought him, saying,

O save my Father ! Let not his gray Hairs be dishonour'd with a violent Death ! Alas he is an old Man, and hath not many Days to live ; suffer him to go down to the Grave in Peace, that my Soul may bless thee.

Then *Kirk* commanded the Virgin to arise, and he looked on her, and his Heart was smitten with her Beauties, insomuch that he burned to enjoy her. And he spake unto the Maiden, saying, Behold now the Life of thy Father is in mine Hand, and I can do unto him whatsoever seemeth good in mine Eyes : howbeit, thy Beauty hath softened mine Heart ; if therefore thou wilt hearken unto my Voice that I may enjoy thee, I swear unto thee his Life shall be safe, not a Hair of his Head shall be in Danger.

Then fell the Maiden down at his Feet, and bedewed the Ground with her Tears, and her Anguish was very great ; and she said unto him, O take my Life, my Life I will give for my Father's willingly ; but let not my Lord desire this Thing, do not this Evil unto thine Handmaid : Alas ! I am a poor Virgin, mine Innocence is mine only Portion. I am besides my  
Father's



Father's only Child, and his Heart is fond of me, he hath none other ; and if I do this Thing, what Benefit shall I have of his Life? for behold he will die with Sorrow.

And her Tears flowed so fast, that she could speak no more; and she continued with her Face towards the Ground weeping.

But the Heart of *Kirk* was hardened, and his Soul was set in him to do Evil; and he spake unto the Virgin, saying, If thou do not instantly comply, thy Father dieth, nay I will hang him up before thy Face, and thine Eyes shall behold his Agonies: and he seemed to be going.

Then the Damsel caught hold of the Skirt of his Garment, and she wept bitterly; and so moving was her Grief, that it would have melted any human Heart. And she cryed out, Kill not my Father! O let me speak! I cannot see him die, indeed I cannot. Here Grief once more stopt up her Voice, and for some time she could not speak or weep; at length, lifting up her Eyes, Forgive me Heaven, she cry'd; Father forgive me, I will save thy Life, but I will not survive mine Honour.

So she yielded unto him, and was undone. For no sooner had he satiated himself with her ruin'd Innocence, than he brought her to the Window, and with an insulting Smile show'd her her Father hanging on the Sign-Post.

Transfixt with Grief and Horror, she suddenly cry'd out — My Father! O my Father! What have I done! — Then sunk upon the

Ground speechless and without Motion; but Life, unhappily for her, returned; she awaked from her Trance all wild and distracted, nor did her Senses ever return to her any more.

Many other Cruelties did they commit, and many other Barbarities; insomuch that the Land stunk of Blood, and the Face of the Earth looked dreadful with the Quarters of Men, which they hanged up in every Place, as a Terror to all that should oppose the Measures of this violent and bigotted Prince.

But it came to pass that *James* was so eager in his Advances to Popery and arbitrary Power, that the great Men and the Nobles, and all the People were alarmed at his Proceedings: Wherefore they sent over Messengers privily unto *William* the Prince of *Orange*, who had married the King's Daughter, desiring his Assistance, to preserve the Religion and the Liberties of the People.

Then *William* raised an Army and came over to *England*; and great Fear came upon *James* because of his Misdoings. Wherefore *James* fled from the Presence of *William*, and became a Fugitive all the Days of his Life.

Moreover his Throne was declared vacant, and *William* his Son-in-Law reigned in his Stead. This is the grand Revolution, this is the Epocha of *English* Freedom.

**WILLIAM**

W I L L I A M<sup>III</sup>.

**A**ND *William* was called the Deliverer, in as much as by him the Land was delivered from Popery and arbitrary Power, and the Liberties of the People both civil and religious were settled and established upon a new Foundation: The Prerogatives of the Crown were limited, and the Rights of the Subject were ascertained.

For the Lords and the Commons of *England*, on the Day that they offered him the Crown, explained also the Conditions on which he must accept it, saying,

Thou shalt not suspend or dispense with Laws, or the Execution of Laws, by Royal Authority, without Consent of Parliament, it is illegal.

Thou shalt not levy Money for the Use of the Crown, by Pretence of Prerogative, it is illegal.

Thou shalt not infringe the Right of the Subjects to petition the King, neither shalt thou prosecute or commit any one for such Petitioning, it is illegal.

Thou shalt not keep a standing Army within the Kingdom in Time of Peace, unless it be with Consent of Parliament, it is illegal.

The Election of Members of Parliament shall be free, and no Freedom of Speech and Debate in Parliament shall be impeached or questioned in any Place or Court out of Parliament.

Excessive



Excessive Bail shall not be required, nor excessive Fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual Punishments inflicted :

Jurors shall be duly impannelled and returned :

And finally, for Redress of all Grievances, and for the amending, strengthening and preserving of the Laws, Parliaments shall frequently be held.

And we the People of *England* do claim, demand, and insist upon all these Things as our undoubted Rights and Liberties.

And *William* was a wise Prince and he ruled the Kingdom with Power and great Glory ; howbeit he had many Oppositions, and it was with great Trouble that he managed the haughty Spirits of the *English*.

Moreover he made War upon the *French*, and he led on his Armies himself ; and the Hand of the Lord was with him, and he discomfited them by Land and by Sea in many Battles.

Now the rest of the Acts of King *William*, his Courage at the *Boyne*, the grand Alliance that he made, the Projects that he form'd, and the Battles that he fought, behold they are written in the Books of the Chronicles of the Kings of *England*.

And *William* reigned over *England* thirteen Years and one Month, and he died ; and *Anne* his Sister in-Law reigned in his stead.

**ANNE.**

## A N N E.

NOW *Anne* was thirty and seven Years old when she began to reign ; and she reigned over *England* twelve Years and five Months.

And she pursued the Measures which *William* her Predecessor had begun, in order to oblige King *Lewis* of *France* to recall his Grandson *Philip*, whom he had seated on the Throne of *Spain*, and to place that Crown on the Head of *Charles*, the Emperor *Leopold's* second Son.

Wherefore War was declared by the confederate Powers of *England*, *Holland* and *Germany* against *France* and against *Spain* ; and *Marlborough* the General was made Commander of their Armies ; and he marched into *Flanders* and encamped there.

And the Arm of the Lord was with him, and he was mighty in Battle, and he defeated the *French* wheresoever he came : In all the Battles that he fought, he conquered ; and whatsoever Town he besieged, it surrendered unto him.

Let *Ramillies* confess the Wonders of his Courage, let the Siege of *Lisle* proclaim his Conduct ; *Blenheim* shall speak aloud the Glory of his Arms, and *Oudenarde* declare his invincible Prowess ; *Tournay* also shall remember him for ever, and bloody *Malplaquet* shall tremble at his Name.

And

And great Fear came upon all *Frenchmen*, and upon *Lewis* their King; wherefore he sought unto *Queen Anne* for Peace, and in an evil Hour she hearkened unto him: A shameful Peace was concluded at *Utrecht*, and the Conquests of *Marlborough* were made in vain.

Now it came pass in these Days, that the Land was divided between two famous Giants; and the Name of the one was *Whiganza*, and the Name of the other was *Toribundos*. And there was Enmity between the Partizans of *Whiganza*, and the Partizans of *Toribundos*, insomuch that they spake of each other with great Bitterness and many Reproaches.

And the Giant *Toribundos* sent forth an evil Spirit in the Shape of a Priest, and he called his Name *Sacheverel*; and when he was strongly possessed, he would rave of *False Brethren*, of *Evil Communication*, of *Passive Obedience*, of *Non-Resistance*, and many other Absurdities.

Now the Party of *Toribundos* adored him as a God; many Pictures of him were taken, and Prints of his Face were dispersed in every Corner; yea, so worthily was he distinguished, that the very Piss-pots of the Land display'd his Countenance at their Bottoms, and Showers of Honour were daily poured upon him.

Many hardy Champions also enlisted themselves beneath his Banners, and fought his Battles with a desperate and zealous Fury.

Howbeit



Howbeit there arose at length from the Tribe of *Whiganza*, a valiant Hero whose Name was *Benjamin*; and he buckled on him the Shield of Reason, and grasping in his Hand the Sword of Truth, he marched into the Host of *Toribundos*, and the whole Army fled from before him, or fell by his Hand: Yea so totally were they defeated, that they turned not again unto this Day.

Now the rest of the Acts of *Queen Anne*, and all her glorious Conquests; her Piety also to the Clergy, and the fifty Churches that she built, behold, if thou livest to see them, thou mayest die an old Man.

And *Anne* slept with her Fathers in the Chapel of *Henry the Seventh*, and *George of Hanover* reigned in her stead.

## G E O R G E I.

**A**N D *George* was fifty and six Years old when he began to reign, and he reigned over *England* twelve Years and ten Months, and his Mother's Name was *Sophia*.

Now it came to pass that the Son of King *James the Second*, who had been abroad since his Father's Abdication, attempted to set himself on the Throne of *Great Britain*.

And there were great Commotions in the Land; and the Spirits of the People were stirred up to Rebellion in many Places.

K

And

And the Friends of *James* assembled an Army and marched to *Preston*; and they were encounter'd there by the King's Forces under the Command of *Wills* and *Carpenter*, and entirely defeated.

*Foster* also their General, with the Lords *Derwentwater*, *Witherington*, *Nithisdale*, *Wintoun*, *Kenmure*, and many others, were taken Captive and committed to the *Tower of London*; and the Heads of some were smitten off on *Tower Hill*, but some escaped.

The Earl of *Marr* also assembled an Army in *Scotland*, but he was discomfited and put to flight by the Duke of *Argyle*.

And now the Crown of *Great Britain* began to sit firm on the Head of King *George*; his Virtues also began to appear, and those that spake Evil of him were confounded and put to Shame.

And behold it came to pass in these Days, that a strong Delusion was sent amongst them, and all the People of the Land were stricken with Madness.

They looked towards the *Southern Sea*, and behold a surprizing Bubble arose on the Surface of the Water; its Circumference filled the Firmament of Heaven, and its Height reached unto the Clouds.

And in the midst of the Bubble were seen the Appearance of sumptuous Palaces, fine Gardens, gilt Chariots, Gold, Silver, and precious Stones, and whatsoever the Heart of Man could desire.

And

And the People ran together in Crowds, saying, *We will be rich; we will all be Lords and Princes of the Earth.*

Many also disposed of their Lands and their Houses, their Goods and their Merchandise, their Plate, their Jewels and their Cloaths, in order to purchase the Shadows in the Bubble.

Howbeit the Delusion began to abate, and whilst they were looking, lo the Bubble brake, and all the gay Appearances vanished into Smoke!

Then were heard Weepings and Wailings, and bitter Lamentations: he whose delusive Dreams had flatter'd him with delicious Gardens and a sumptuous Palace, awakes and finds himself in a Wretched Garret, or sweeping those Walks which he had planted for himself: He whose gilt Liveries had glitter'd in his Imagination, is compelled for Want to wear one himself; and he who fed on Venison at five Guineas a Haunch, now dines in *Pudding Lane* on a Twopenny Chop.

But woe unto you Managers, woe unto you Jobbers, woe unto you the Directors thereof! for the Miseries of the Land are at your Doors, the Cries of the Poor are against you; the Ruin of Thousands compel them to curse you, and the Vengeance of Heaven shall fall heavy on your Heads.

Now the rest of the Acts of King *George*, and all that he did, are they not written in the Books of the Chronicles of the Kings of *England*?



And *George* slept with his Fathers, and was buried in his own Tomb at *Hanover*, and *George* his Son reigned in his stead.

## G E O R G E II.

**A**ND *George* was forty and four Years old when he began to reign, and behold the Scepter continueth in his Hand, the Crown also is on his Head; and he sitteth on the Throne of his Majesty unto this Day.

Where, that he may long continue in Power and great Glory, let us pray, That his Ministers be just, That his Counsellors be wise, and his Captains couragious; so shall he become the Scourge of *Spain*, the Terror of *France*, and the Wonder of *Europe*.

Then will we come before his Presence with Thanksgiving, and enter into his Court with Praise; we will be thankful unto him, and speak good of his Name.

And now behold these are the Names of the Kings of *England*, and these are their Generations.

*George* the Second, who was the Son of *George* the First, who was the Cousin of *Anne*, who was the Sister in Law of *William* the Third, who was the Son in Law of *James* the Second, who was the Brother of *Charles* the Second, who was the Son of *Charles* the First, who was the Son of *James* the First, who was the Cousin of *Elizabeth*, who was the Sister  
of


of *Mary*, who was the Sister of *Edward* the Sixth, who was the Son of *Henry* the Eighth, who was the Son of *Henry* the Seventh, who was the Cousin of *Richard* the Third, who was the Uncle of *Edward* the Fifth, who was the Son of *Edward* the Fourth, who was the Cousin of *Henry* the Sixth, who was the Son of *Henry* the Fifth, who was the Son of *Henry* the Fourth, who was the Cousin of *Richard* the Second, who was the Grandson of *Edward* the Third, who was the Son of *Edward* the Second, who was the Son of *Edward* the First, who was the Son of *Henry* the Third, who was the Son of *John*, who was the Brother of *Richard* the First, who was the Son of *Henry* the Second, who was the Cousin of *Stephen*, who was the Cousin of *Henry* the First, who was the Brother of *William Rufus*, who was the Son of *William* the Conqueror, who was the Son of a Whore.

*Thus endeth the Chronicle of the KINGS  
of ENGLAND.*

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#### ERRATUM.

At the End of *Queen Elizabeth's* Reign, p. 40. lin. 1. for  
*submitted* read *subjected*.

  
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